

Meeting Date: May 21-23, 2008

Agenda Item No. 12

Agenda Item: Region 6 - Harris land acquisition and Land Legacy project update

Approved by: BB

Prepared by: Steve Elam and Gregg Servheen

Background:

The Emma Louise Harris Estate consists of 140 acres adjacent to Tex Creek WMA in Bonneville County. The land exists in two parcels on the Harris Bench; one 50 acre piece and one 90 acre piece. Both parcels abut state (IDL) property. In addition, the southwest corner of the 90 acre piece is contiguous to land managed as part of Tex Ck WMA. Both parcels primarily consist of CRP and if purchased would provide approximately \$5,000.00 annually to the Tex Ck budget for habitat operations and maintenance at least through the life of the existing contract (through 2020 on the 90 acres and through 2014 on the 50 acre parcel both at \$43/acre---total potential income of \$55,057). Executive Session Jan 2008. Costs: \$98,000 in license monies. PILT is estimated at \$85/year. O & M costs estimated at \$1000/year.

Statutory Authority and/or Policy issues:

Land acquisition in accordance with Commission land acquisition policy.

Public Involvement Process:

County commissioners will be notified and asked for their approval prior to closings. The public will be informed and contacted for their input regarding management of the property.

Staff Recommendation:

The Lands Committee recommends proceeding with the acquisition.